

Leaves from the Brook

The newsletter of the Brook Waimarama Sanctuary

In this issue we celebrate:

- ★ The opening of our entrance building – a major milestone
- ★ Securing two years of funding for a full-time coordinator

We say farewell and thanks to Ann

and ask you to write a submission to help us secure a major grant from Nelson City Council

Entrance Building Opening – what an achievement!



Steve Chadwick MP prepares to cut the ribbon to open the building

We celebrated this key milestone in style on 1 April and I am sure that all of you who attended enjoyed the day and sensed the positive energy that will carry us forward.

It was wonderful to see so many people up early at dawn, to hear a taonga puoro (traditional Maori instrument) in the hands of Richard Nunns make the first call, to be echoed by the bellbirds. Thanks to Rev Harvey Whakaruru for leading the blessing of the building.

The main event in the afternoon led off with some inspiring speeches followed by music from Hinemoana Baker, Richard Nunns and Christine White – we promise that we will bring these three back for a concert someday soon! Then Steve Chadwick, MP, Chair of the Environment and Local Government Select Committee and representing the Minister of Conservation, planted a titoki and cut the 'ribbon' of old man's beard to open the building. Thanks Steve for your enthusiastic participation.

Visitors then enjoyed a walk through the building and a look at the information displays produced by local artists and designers with funds from the Ministry of Tourism – recognising the Sanctuary as nationally significant for tourism.

Thanks to those who made this possible.... The way the building was achieved provides a model for the project as a whole – some outside funding and a lot of local input.. The ingredients were:

- Funding – from Canterbury Community Trust and the local Baigent Family Trust
- Nelson City Council support – in providing land to lease
- Trust partner support – NMIT students undertaking initial construction
- Donations and discounts from local companies and individuals (see the full list in the building and please support the businesses who supported us)
- A mountain of work from our tireless volunteers
- Energetic project management – thanks to Dave Leadbetter, the trustee managing the project and to Alistair Wiffen, the supervising builder.

THE BUILDING IS YOURS PLEASE VISIT & ENJOY

**We are aiming to open 10am-4pm seven days a week
– see how you can help below.**



Visitors enjoy taking a look at the displays

Staffing the building

Many thanks to those of you with email who have already received this request and responded so positively to set up a 7-day roster to staff the building... but more people are needed. Can you manage the occasional morning (10am-1pm) or afternoon (1-4pm)? It's a great place for sipping a tea on the deck and the displays make it easy to explain what the Sanctuary is all about. Please contact us by email or phone.

Nelson City Council Annual Plan

We need all of you to help by making submissions.

The next few weeks may dictate how soon we can achieve the vision that excites so many of us. The NCC's draft annual plan for 2007/08 is now available for submissions. The Trust has requested the inclusion of \$250,000 a year for four years towards building the pest-proof fence. This would make a major contribution to our fundraising and encourage others to join in. We would hope to start building in year two and borrow against the remaining funds committed.

PLEASE MAKE A SUBMISSION ON OUR BEHALF

Some key dates:

Today - the ideal day to write your submission

Tues 15 May - submissions close at 4pm

25, 28 and 29 May - meetings at NCC for those wishing to speak to their submissions

8 June - final plan is to be approved by Council on 8th June.

Plans and submission forms are available from NCC, a form was placed in Live Nelson or you can submit on line.

Submitting online:

Go to the link www.nelsoncitycouncil.co.nz/thecouncil/Annual%20Plan/AP-07/annual-plan-form.htm or the council web site www.nelsoncitycouncil.co.nz and follow plan prompts.

We are not going to suggest exactly what to say as we feel that a submission in your own words is much more valuable.

*BUT PLEASE DO WRITE ONE
– NUMBERS COUNT*

– and encourage your friends to do the same.



Richard Nunns, Hinemoana Baker and Christine White entertain the crowd

We Suggest that You Consider:

- The strength of our support is shown by our membership of almost 500, the entrance building completed without a cent from Council and almost \$600,000 raised to date
- The entrance building was completed (without a cent from Council) and almost \$600,000 has been raised to date
- The project will generate significant income for the region 365 days a year – drawing visitors here or encouraging others to stay an extra day. We expect it to become one of Nelson's top 3 attractions (number one actually!).
- The benefit of the project will reach far beyond its boundaries, bringing native birds back into Nelson (and Stoke & Richmond) and enriching all our lives
- Once the fence is up the Sanctuary asset increases in value by itself as our native fauna breed up unmolested
- Central Government has recognised the Sanctuary as nationally significant for tourism
- An education/training centre planned with our partners NMIT and DOC will also be nationally significant as one of three sites nationwide
- The project has developed a business plan based on very conservative visitor estimates that should ensure sustainability – we are setting out from day 1 that we will never need to go back to Council for a 'bail out'.

The Sanctuary sits within the 'Parks and Open Space' part of the plan on p. 64 where targets have largely been met, however the contribution of the Sanctuary will be much wider, helping to meet more significant targets within 'Environmental Management' enhancing Nelson's biodiversity (p. 54) and within 'Economic and Tourism Support' (pps 73-74).

You might also wish to comment on the contribution that the Sanctuary will make to 'natural and amenity values' objectives in the Council's Regional Policy Statement and to the first goal of 'Active protection of native biodiversity' in its draft Biodiversity Strategy.

Above all please let your Councillors know why the Sanctuary is important to you and why it deserves their support.

Please contact us if you would like help making your submission.

Garden Bird Survey

We now have almost thirty people signed up to take part in the Garden Bird Survey so it is definitely happening – and the Kiwi Conservation Club is planning to join us too. The idea is to record what birds are seen in gardens between Richmond and Nelson now, and then over the years record an increase as the Sanctuary takes effect. We'll be sending out the instructions and forms soon but it's not too late to join in – it will only take you an hour a month! Please send us an email or leave us a phone message.

Co-ordinator Changes - Farewell to Ann – Full-time Position Funded

The Trust has recently signed a contract with Work & Income to provide funds for us to employ a full-time coordinator for the next two years. This will be a key position at a key time for the project and if you are interested in applying please let us know so we can make sure you receive the details (see advert below). The coordinator will be kept very busy as we have included milestones of completing the fence and employing several more staff by the end of 2009 in our agreement.

The change to a full-time position coincides with the end of Ann Sheridan's contract with the Trust. Ann has worked with us almost from the outset and has made a wonderful contribution and I am sure that you will join the Trustees in thanking her for her efforts. I know that she was very pleased to see the successful opening of our entrance building before she left and she reaffirmed her support for the project so that I am sure that she will continue to be involved in the future.

Alastair Wiffen is currently standing in as coordinator for a few weeks.

Fund-raising – Now on to the Fence!

Now that the entrance building is completed we are turning our energies towards fundraising for the fence. We are developing campaign materials and will soon be able to invite everyone to contribute in a way that suits them. Remember, we already have a great start with \$210,000 pledged from Canterbury Community Trust and we hope you will help us to obtain strong support from NCC. Please use the attached form to make your own donation to get the campaign moving.



Nico Frizell tries out the bird puzzle in the childrens' area

Resource Consent

The new pest-proof fencing company in the market will visit us shortly to help sort out the final route and give us a quote. Once we have a route agreed we will be able to complete the information requested by NCC staff for our resource consent application.



We are here! Viewing the 3D model of the area

Increasing Our Membership...

Invite a Friend to Join!

You as our members are the backbone of the Sanctuary. The number of members will become increasingly important as we move into the new fund-raising phase and we would love to move from almost 500 to nearer 1000. Imagine how impressive that would be. Do you know of friends or colleagues who might be interested? Please spread the word and suggest they take a look at our website for a start.

PROJECT COORDINATOR

Your opportunity to play a key role in developing of one of New Zealand's foremost wildlife sanctuaries.

Join the community trust working to pest-proof fence over 700ha of forest behind Nelson to create a regional resource for conservation, public participation, education and tourism.

Are you committed to conservation? An excellent communicator? A team player? With good organisational and computer skills?

Do you enjoy working with a wide range of people? If so we would love to hear from you.

Please contact us for a Job Description: email: brooksanctuary@xtra.co.nz or phone: 03 5469175 ext 683 or mail PO Box 744, Nelson.

Closing date for applications: Wed 16 May.

All photos by Dean Schneider

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Phone: 03 546 9175 extn 683 **Email:** info@brooksanctuary.org

OR VISIT OR CALL OUR ENTRANCE BUILDING
(10am - 4pm) **Phone** 03 539 4920

Tree of Life

The Entrance Building will feature a stunning tree designed by a local artist incorporating some of the birdlife within the Sanctuary. The Tree of Life will be a talking point within the Entrance Building and the wider community, and it is a great way to acknowledge all the donors contributing from \$100.00 upwards.

The tree is a powerful symbol of growth, as the tree is the only living thing that continues to grow throughout its lifetime. The Tree of Life symbolises life, growth, survival, protection, strength and the generations.

For a donation of \$100, \$500 or \$1,000 you can sponsor a bird on the Tree of Life within the Sanctuary's Entrance Building and link your family or group's name to the project for posterity.

- Robin - \$100
- Yellow-crowned parakeet - \$500
- Kaka - \$1,000



All donations and grants will be put towards the construction of the pest-proof fence and establishment of the Brook Waimarama Sanctuary. Anonymous donations are also welcome. All donations are tax deductible within normal allowable limits.



Brook Waimarama Sanctuary Trust Tree of Life Sponsorship Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

I/we wish to sponsor: (please tick)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

Robin	\$100
Yellow-crowned parakeet	\$500
Kaka	\$1,000

Anonymous donations will be gratefully appreciated.

Inscription: (please print clearly - leave blank if you wish to remain anonymous)

Name: _____ (20 characters max.)

Please find payment attached:

A cheque for \$_____ being the full payment for my sponsorship.
(Please make cheques payable to 'Brook Waimarama Sanctuary Trust').

Please charge my credit card for NZ\$_____

Visa Mastercard

Card No. _____ Expiry Date: _____ / _____

Name on card: _____

Signature: _____

Please return the completed form along with payment to:
Brook Waimarama Sanctuary, PO Box 744, Nelson or
drop into the Entrance Building (currently open 10.00 am - 4.00 pm).